(c) Close monitoring and intensive chasing already being done to ensure punctuality of passenger carrying trains. The journey time of the trains are reviewed at the time of revision of time table and action taken to speed up the trains wherever feasible.

Visit of Central team to flood affected areas of Punjab

1776. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a central team had visited the flood affected villages of Badla, Harta, Rajpur Bhayan in District Hoshiarpur of Punjab in 1988 and assured the affected villagers of the assistance for clearing their land of 5-10 feet thick layers of sand to make the land cultivable;

(b) if so, the area rendered uncultivable and the number of the persons affected and rendered unemployed as a result thereof;

(c) the action taken by Government to clear the sand during the last two years before March, 1990;

(d) whether the affected farmers had to hire the bulldozers for clearing the sand at an exorbitant rate of Rs 370/- per hour;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) the corrective steps taken by Government in this regerd; and

(g) the modalities formulated in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) and (b) A Central Team in 1988 visited some of the flood affected villages in Hoshiarpur District of Punjab to make an assessment of the damage caused to agricultural land by sand-casting. As reported by the State Government, their total agricultural land affected by sand casting in the villages of Badla, Harta and Rajpur Bhayan and the number of persons rendered unemployed is as under :

Village	Area affected (in ha.)	Persons rendered unemployed
Badla	125	80
Harta	28	19
Rajpur Bhayan	=	=

However, the depth of land varied from 2 inches to 4 ft and no agricultural land in the said villages had sand depth between 5-10 ft.

(c) As per report received from the Government of Punjab, agricultural land measuring 96 ha. having sand depth less than 2 ft has been brought under cultivation in these villages. The remaining agricultural land measuring 57 ha. had sand depth more than 2 ft and the State Government approved a separate scheme for removal of sand from these areas. Funds under the scheme were released in the last week of March, 1990 but the same could no be utilised due to shortage of time Hence the remaining agricultural land will be made available for cultivation during 1990-91.

(d) to (g) The State Government has reported that the affected farmers were provided Bulldozers on hire basis at the rate of Rs. 270/- per hour according to approved rates of the Department of Soil Conservation. The area where sand depth was less than 2 ft., institutional loan was provided and subsidy from 25% to 50% was given depending upon the depth of sand/ quantum of earth work and size of holding. The balance of loan is recoverable in 8 years period. The areas where sand depth is more than two feet, Government funds will be spent, 50% of which will be converted into loan and recovered in 15 years period.

मध्य प्रदेश में इंदिरा आवास योजना पर किया गया व्यय

1777. **श्रीमती रत्न कुमारी** : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि: (क) मध्य प्रदेश में इंदिरा आवास योजना के अन्तर्गत अब तक कुल कितनी धनराशि खर्च की गई है और इसके अधीन निर्मित मकानों की संख्या कितनी है; और

(ख) इस योजना पर वर्ष 1990-91 के दौरान कितनी धनराशि के खर्च किए जाने की सम्भावना है?

कृषि मंत्रालय में ग्रामीण विकास विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री उपेन्द्र नाथ वर्मा): (क) मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने सितम्बर, 1989 तक की इंदिरा आवास योजना की प्रगति रिपोर्ट भेज दी है। तब तक खर्च की गई राशि तथा निर्मित मकानों की संख्या क्रमशः 3804.11 लाख रुपये तथा 21,676 है।

(ख) मध्य प्रदेश को 1990-91 के लिए इन्दिरा आवास योजना के अंतर्गत 2319.72 लाख रुपये आबंटित किए गए हैं।

Installation of medical/surgical and physiotherapy equipments at Railway Hospitals

1778. SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether any plan has been prepared by the Northern Railway Administration for installation of modern medical/surgical and physiotherapy equipment in the various Railway Divisional Hospital on the Northern Railway, particularly, the one at Moradabad;

(b) if so, by when ;

(c) whether Government are aware that at the Railway Hospital at Moradabad, the Railway Pensioners, who subscribe to the Railway's Health Scheme are neither given any physiotherapy treatment nor requisite medicines and are not properly examined and treated; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to provide such medical relief facilities to the above Hospital?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) : (a) and (b) All the Divisional Hospitals including Moradabad Railway Hospital, on Northern Railway are equipped with Modern Medical/Surgical equipments including physiotherapy equipments

(c) and (d) Proper medical care and treatment including physiotherapy is provided to retired railway employees, at Moradabad Divisional Hospital

1779 [*Withdrawn*]

Application for grant of advance from employees Provident Fund

1780. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received by the Karampura Sub-